MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether an estimate has been called for?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Answer to part (*b*) says that.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): When was that please?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The court itself was opened in Chingam 1108 and so the estimate must have been called for in the course of last year.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Approximate date will do.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): During the latter half of last year.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether it has reached Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Not yet.

Assistant Surgeons in the Public Health Department.

66. ***MR. K. SANKARAN** (*Kartikapalli I*): (*a*) Will the Government be please to give a statement by caste showing the number of Assistant Surgeons in the Public Health Department of the State; and

(*b*) will they be pleased to state the number of duly qualified Ezhavas who have applied hitherto for the place of Assistant Surgeons in the Public Health Department?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*)

Jacobite Syrian Christian	...	1	
Marthoma Do.	...	1	(Ag.)
Nairs	...	2	
Brahmins	...	2	

(*b*) 2.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know from the member why, out of the two Ezhava applicants, no one was entertained?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): There was no vacancy then. One of these applicants is only an L. M. & S., and at the time when this application was with Government, there arose one vacancy and an M. B. B. S., was appointed. Subsequent to that, there was no vacancy. That is to say when the application of an Ezhava M. B. & B. S. was with Government, there was no vacancy and so he was not appointed.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): May I know whether any distinction is made, in the matter of appointments, between an L. M. & S. and an M. B. & B. S.?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): The Deputy Director of Public Health says that an M. B. & B. S. should be preferred to an L.M.&S. Hence the Ezhava L.M.& S. was not entertained.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Am I to take it that that is the invariable rule for appointments in the Public Health Department?

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RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): In this particular case, the Deputy Director of Public Health has followed this rule. When a man with higher qualifications is available, preference should be given to him.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): So, am I to take it that no man with L. M. & S. qualification is appointed in the Public Health Department?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): Only one L. M. & S. has so far been appointed.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Am I to understand that when that man was appointed, there was no other M.B. & B.S. qualified man?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Public Cremation ground in Shertala.

67. ***MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON** (*Shertala I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is a public cremation ground in Shertala;

(*b*) if so, the location and the extent of the same; and

(*c*) whether they are aware that the dead bodies from the hospital and of the destitute are allowed to be exposed in Anathara Veli just to the east of the Alleppey-Aroor road?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) in view of the answer to part (*a*), this question does not arise.

(*c*) No. Dead bodies are either buried or burnt at the place.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Am I to understand from the member that there is no public cremation ground reserved for the said purpose. I heard the official member to say that—

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: You can only put a question.

MR EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): What is the answer to part (*a*) please?

DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The answer was 'no.'

MR. POTTAYIL S KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know if dead bodies are buried or burnt in private places at the expense of private land owners?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): There are two private cremation grounds, one used by the Gaudasaraswats and the other by Elavaniyans.

MR. POTTAYIL S. KRISHNA PANICKAR (*Shertala II*): May I know in what locality they are?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know. I know that there is no public cremation ground at Shertala.

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